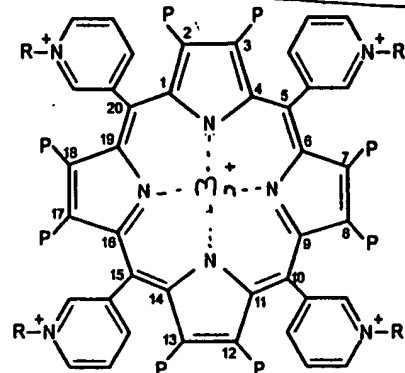
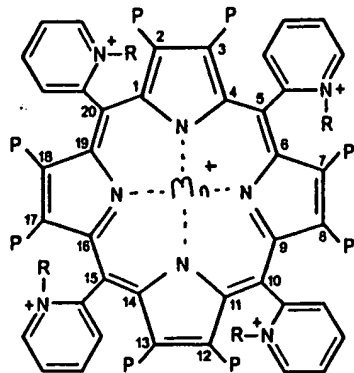


A1

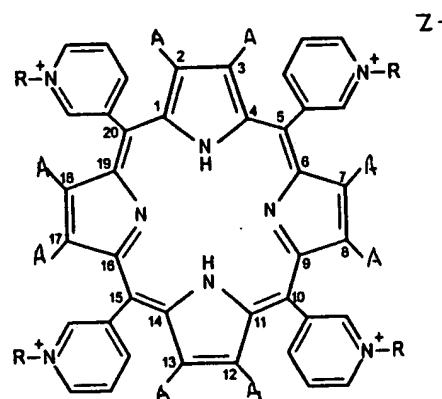
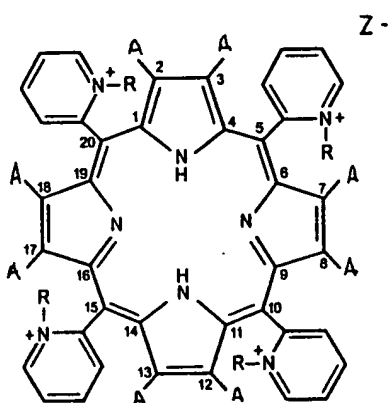
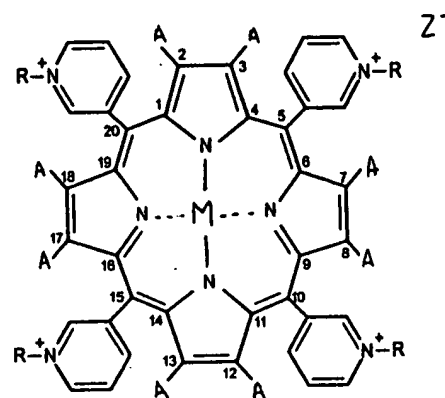
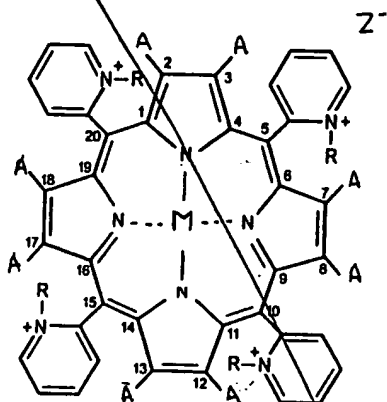


IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1-27 without prejudice and add the following new claims in lieu thereof.

A

28. (New) A compound of formula



or

wherein

each R is, independently, ethyl or isopropyl,

each A is, independently, hydrogen or a halogen,

M is a metal selected from the group consisting of manganese, iron, copper, cobalt, nickel and zinc, and

Z<sup>-</sup> is a counterion.

2 ~~29~~. (New) The compound according to claim ~~28~~ wherein each R is ethyl.

3 ~~30~~. (New) The compound according to claim ~~28~~ wherein at least one A is a halogen.

AZ 4 ~~31~~. (New) The compound according to claim ~~28~~ wherein said compound is of Formula I or II and M is manganese.

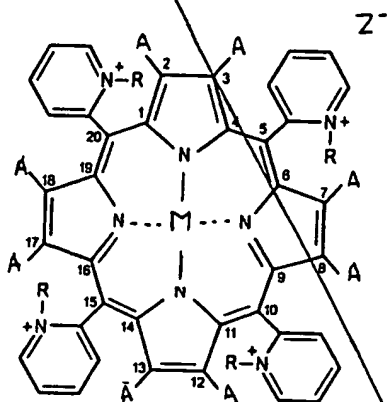
Sub B' 5 ~~32~~. (New) The compound according to claim ~~28~~ wherein said compound is of Formula I or III.

6 ~~33~~. (New) The compound according to claim ~~32~~ wherein said compound is of Formula I and M is manganese.

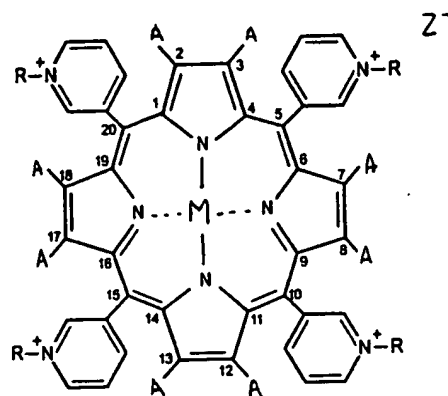
7 ~~34~~. (New) The compound according to claim ~~28~~ wherein said compound is a mixture of atropoisomers  $\alpha\alpha\alpha\alpha$ ,  $\alpha\alpha\alpha\beta$ ,  $\alpha\alpha\beta\beta$  and  $\alpha\beta\alpha\beta$ .

8 ~~35~~. (New) The compound according to claim ~~28~~ wherein said compound is a mixture of  $\alpha\alpha\alpha\beta$  and  $\alpha\alpha\alpha\alpha$  atropoisomers.

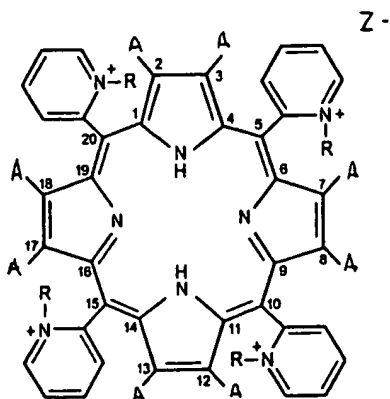
36. (New) A method of protecting cells from oxidant-induced toxicity comprising contacting said cells with a protective amount of a compound of formula



I

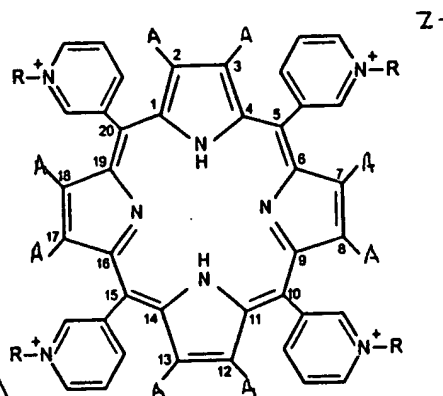


II



III

or



IV,

wherein

each R is, independently, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl group,

each A is, independently, hydrogen or a halogen,

M is a metal selected from the group consisting of manganese, iron, copper, cobalt, nickel and zinc, and

A

Z<sup>-</sup> is a counterion.

<sup>10</sup>/<sub>37</sub>. (New) The method according to claim <sup>9</sup>/<sub>36</sub> wherein said cells are mammalian cells.

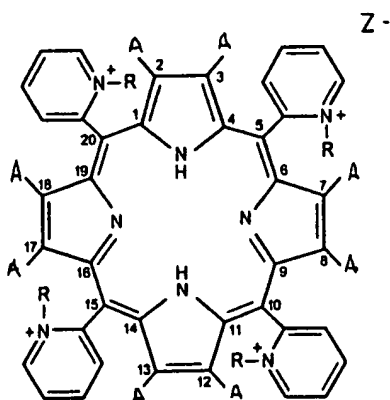
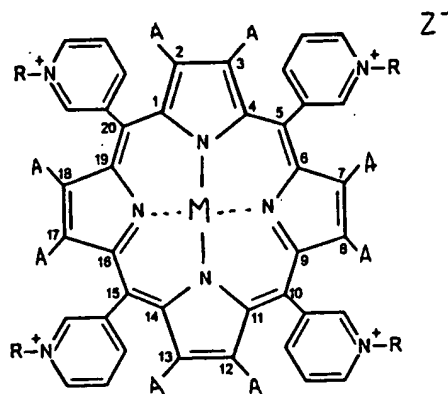
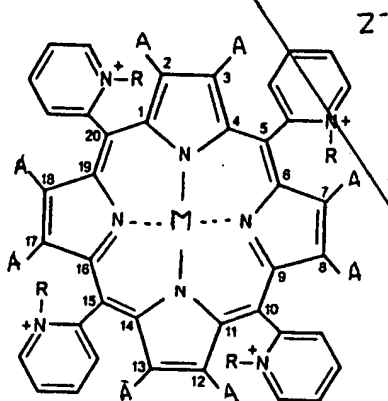
<sup>11</sup>/<sub>38</sub>. (New) The method according to claim <sup>9</sup>/<sub>36</sub> wherein said compound is of Formula I or II and M is manganese.

<sup>12</sup>/<sub>39</sub>. (New) The method according to claim <sup>9</sup>/<sub>36</sub> wherein said compound is of Formula I or III.

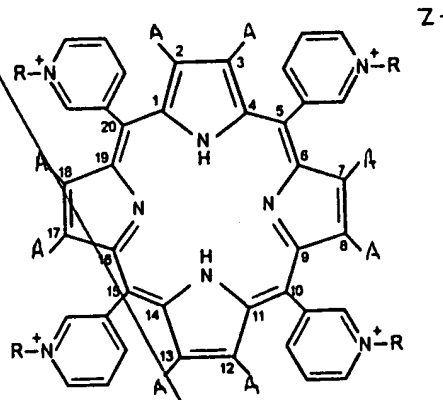
<sup>13</sup>/<sub>40</sub>. (New) The method according to claim <sup>12</sup>/<sub>39</sub> wherein said compound is of Formula I and M is manganese.

<sup>14</sup>/<sub>41</sub>. The method according to claim <sup>9</sup>/<sub>36</sub> wherein each R is independently ethyl or isopropyl.

15 42. A method of treating a pathological condition of a patient resulting from oxidant-induced toxicity comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a compound of formula



or



wherein

each R is, independently, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl group,

each A is, independently, hydrogen or a halogen,

M is a metal selected from the group consisting of

manganese, iron, copper, cobalt, nickel and zinc, and

Z<sup>-</sup> is a counterion.

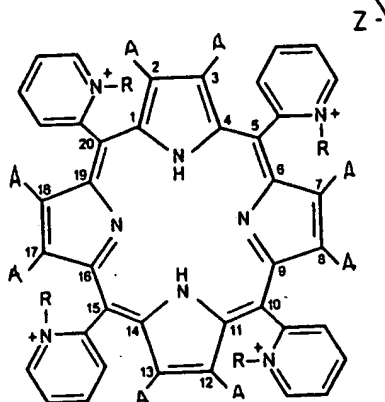
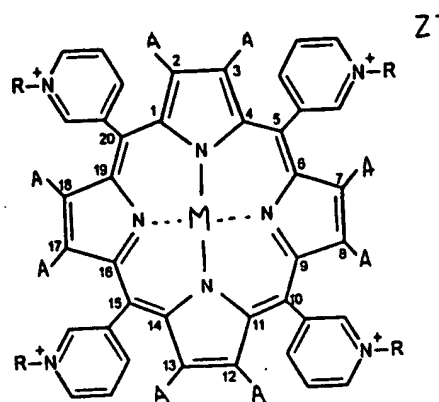
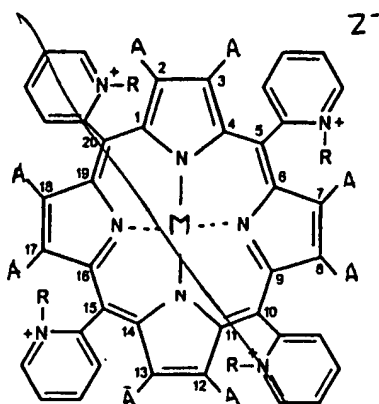
<sup>16</sup>/~~43~~. (New) The method according to claim <sup>15</sup>/~~42~~ wherein said compound is of Formula I or II and M is manganese.

<sup>17</sup>/~~44~~. (New) The method according to claim <sup>15</sup>/~~42~~ wherein said compound is of Formula I or III.

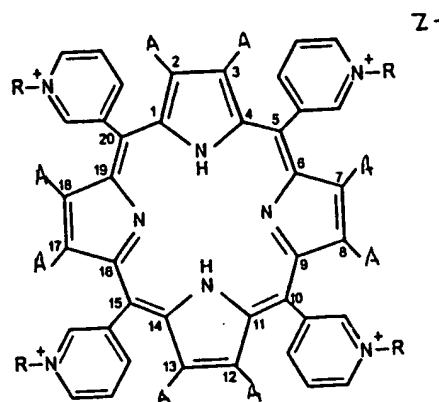
<sup>18</sup>/~~45~~. (New). The method according to claim <sup>17</sup>/~~44~~ wherein said compound is of Formula I and M is manganese.

<sup>19</sup>/~~46~~. The method according to claim <sup>15</sup>/~~42~~ wherein each R is independently ethyl or isopropyl.

<sup>20</sup>/~~47~~. (New) A method of treating a pathological condition of a patient resulting from degradation of NO<sup>•</sup>, comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a compound of formula



or



wherein

each R is, independently, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl group, and

each A is, independently, hydrogen or a halogen,

M is a metal selected from the group consisting of manganese, iron, copper, cobalt, nickel and zinc, and

Z<sup>-</sup> is a counterion.

21/48. (New) The method according to claim 20/47 wherein

A



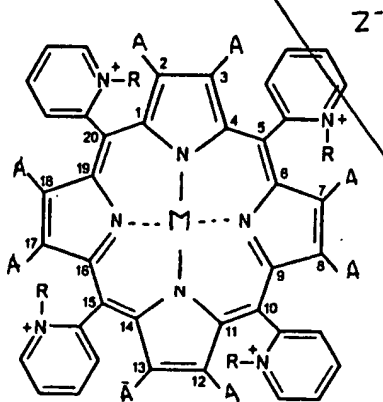
said compound is of Formula I or II and M is manganese.

<sup>22</sup>/<sub>49</sub>. (New) The method according to claim <sup>20</sup>/<sub>47</sub> wherein  
said compound is of Formula I or III.

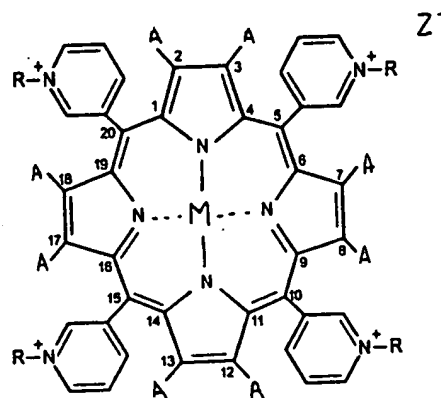
<sup>23</sup>/<sub>50</sub>. (New) The method according to claim <sup>22</sup>/<sub>49</sub> wherein  
said compound is of Formula I and M is manganese.

<sup>24</sup>/<sub>51</sub>. (New) The method according to claim <sup>20</sup>/<sub>47</sub> wherein  
each R is independently ethyl or isopropyl.

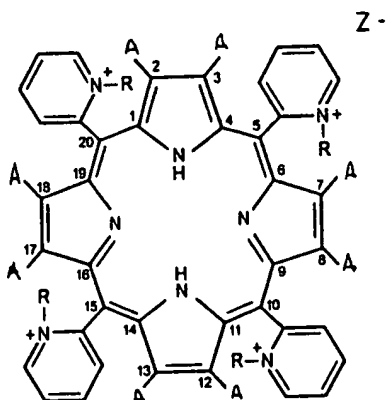
25 52. (New) A method of treating a patient for inflammatory lung disease comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a compound of formula



I

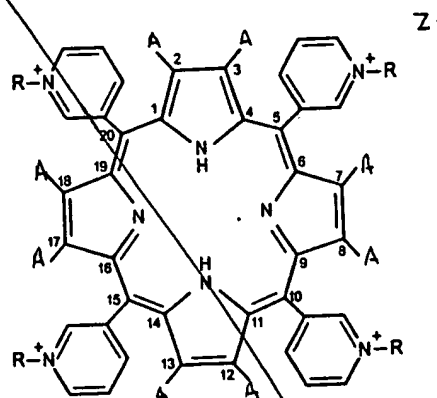


II



III

or



IV,

wherein

each R is, independently, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl group, and

each A is, independently, hydrogen or a halogen,

M is a metal selected from the group consisting of manganese, iron, copper, cobalt, nickel and zinc, and

A

Z<sup>2</sup> is a counterion.

26<sup>25</sup>/<sub>53</sub>. (New) The method according to claim <sup>25</sup>/<sub>52</sub> wherein said compound is of Formula I or II and M is manganese.

27<sup>25</sup>/<sub>54</sub>. (New) The method according to claim <sup>25</sup>/<sub>52</sub> wherein said inflammatory lung disease is a hyper-reactive airway disease.

28<sup>25</sup>/<sub>55</sub>. (New) The method according to claim <sup>25</sup>/<sub>52</sub> wherein said inflammatory lung disease is asthma.

29<sup>25</sup>/<sub>56</sub>. (New) The method according to claim <sup>25</sup>/<sub>52</sub> wherein said compound is of Formula I or II and M is manganese.

30<sup>25</sup>/<sub>57</sub>. (New) The method according to claim <sup>25</sup>/<sub>52</sub> wherein said compound is of Formula I or III.

31<sup>30</sup>/<sub>58</sub>. (New) The method according to claim <sup>30</sup>/<sub>57</sub> wherein said compound is of Formula I and M is manganese.

32<sup>25</sup>/<sub>59</sub>. (New) The method according to claim <sup>25</sup>/<sub>52</sub> wherein each R is independently methyl, ethyl or isopropyl.